

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND claims 1, 17, 19-22 in accordance with the following:

*A2* *Sub B1* 1. (ONCE AMENDED) A method, comprising:  
evaluating a dependency graph of a graphics creation process using a computer,  
comprising:  
passing a function of a first dependency node to a second dependency node; and  
evaluating the function as part of an evaluation of the second dependency node.

*A3* *Sub B1* 17. (ONCE AMENDED) A method, comprising:  
evaluating a dependency graph of a graphics creation process using a computer,  
comprising:  
passing a function of a first dependency node to a second dependency node, the  
function comprising a self evaluating data structure comprising a function calling method and  
containing information describing a set of input and output parameters the function accepts  
where the information determines if function attribute types within the dependency graph are  
compatible and comprising default values for all input and output parameters;  
mapping parameters of first and second functions of the first and second nodes, where  
the mapping comprises an index, defines a relationship where input parameters are ignored and  
output parameters are unmapped and take on default values, where parameter value and type  
are passed for the mapping and the function data structure and value index are passed for the  
mapping; and  
evaluating the function as part of an evaluation of the second dependency node  
comprising determining a type of a passed parameter where parameter types are identified  
dynamically as the dependency graph is executed.

*A4* *Sub B1* 19. (ONCE AMENDED) A method, comprising:  
evaluating a dependency graph of a graphics creation process using a computer,  
comprising:  
passing a function from a first node in a node network to a second node in the  
node network; and  
evaluating the function as part of an evaluation of the second node.

20. (ONCE AMENDED) An apparatus comprising a computer including a dependency